



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL
FAITH AND LOVE
STRATHMORE

Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Primary School
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Reflection

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Last weekend, the Church celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This special feast reminds us of Mary’s deep faith and trust in God. We celebrate that, at the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken body and soul into Heaven. The Gospel for the feast tells us about Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth. Filled with joy and the Holy Spirit, Mary praises God and says, “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.” (Luke 1:46–47)

Mary is a wonderful example for us. She trusted God, said yes to His call and brought Jesus to others through her love and service. As a school community, we can follow Mary’s example by looking for ways to show kindness, care for others and bring God’s love into the world around us.

Let us pray:

Mary, Mother of Jesus,
help us to follow your example of faith,
to trust in God and to say yes to His call.
Help us to bring joy, kindness and love to others.

Amen.



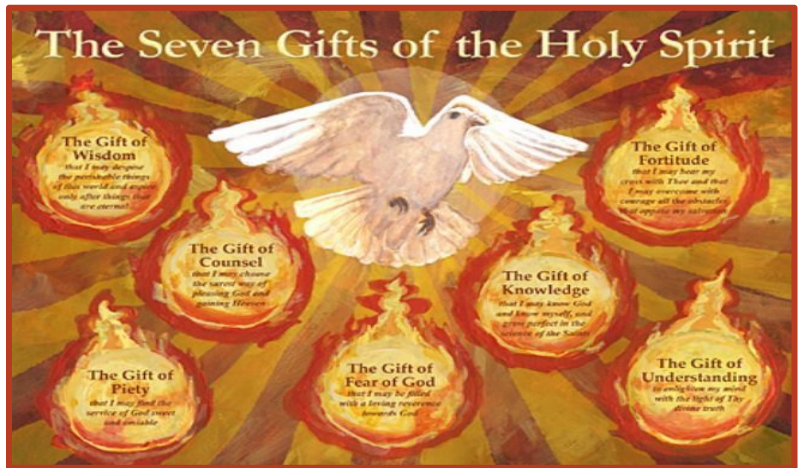
Preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Our Year 6 students have begun an important stage in their faith journey as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation, together with Baptism and the Eucharist. It strengthens the grace received at Baptism and deepens our relationship with God, strengthening us through the Holy Spirit to live our faith with courage and commitment.

For families, Confirmation is an opportunity to support your child as they take greater ownership of their faith and reflect on what it means to live as a young Catholic. As part of their preparation, students will focus on the Essential Learning: “Reflect on how the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit help us live as Spirit-filled people.” They will explore the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit and consider how these can guide their choices, relationships and actions each day.

We look forward to guiding and supporting our Year 6 students on this special journey towards Confirmation. We ask our school community to keep them in their prayers as they prepare to receive this important Sacrament.

Melissa Pannell
Religious Education Leader



Principal’s Message

Tonight the parents of the Year 6 children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will attend an information and faith development session. The evening will be facilitated by Jude Caspersz with the support of the classroom teachers and school leaders. This is part of the school’s commitment to work with families in supporting their children to come to a deep understanding of the significance of this sacrament in their lives. We ask that you keep the children and their families in your prayers as they begin to explore the Gifts of the Holy Spirit that are within the children.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SURVEYS

In the coming week families will be provided with information regarding the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools – School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS). MACSSIS is a set of surveys that have been built specifically for Catholic schools in Melbourne by the Learning Services team at MACS. The results from the surveys provide important information for our school and help guide our goals for the coming year(s). We would encourage all families to take the time to complete the survey. The more people who complete it the greater the accuracy of the data collected.

PREP FAMILY MASS & YEAR 6 COMMITMENT MASS

Families who have children in Year Prep and Year 6 are invited to attend one of the 2 Parish Family Masses to be held this weekend. This is an opportunity for the families to celebrate the Eucharist together in a respectful and prayerful way. The mass is also part of the Year 6 children’s commitment to their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation and we look forward to seeing a full church at 6:00pm on Saturday and 9:30am on Sunday.

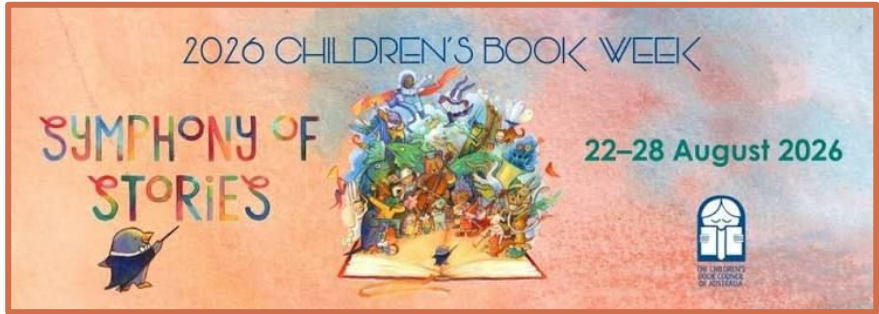
LEARNING CONFERENCES

The Learning Conferences for Semester 2 will take place on September 16. Children are expected to attend the learning conferences with their parent(s). These conferences are an opportunity for students and teachers to identify how children are progressing in their learning. The children in Year P-2 will attend the conferences with their parents and the teacher will facilitate the meeting. The children in Years 3-6 will also attend the conference and will facilitate the first part of the meeting, with the teacher facilitating the second part. The school will be closed on this day with the Learning Conferences beginning at 11:00am and concluding at 6:00pm. Details of how to book for the Learning Conferences are included in today’s newsletter.

BOOK WEEK

We are excited to celebrate Book Week with our students and families next week. Book Week is a wonderful opportunity to recognise the joy and importance of reading and to celebrate the stories, characters and authors that inspire our imaginations. Throughout the week, students will participate in a range of engaging activities including a visit by author, Alex Miles. Alex has written many of the Zac Power novels under the shared writer's name of H.I. Larry. She was also a script writer, storyliner and coordinator for many 'Neighbours' episodes between 2009 & 2012 designed to encourage a love of books and reading across the school.

We will also celebrate with a Book Week Parade at 9:30am on Friday, August 28, giving students the opportunity to come dressed as a favourite book character. We encourage families to be creative and, where possible, use items they already have at home rather than purchasing a costume. We look forward to seeing our students bring their favourite stories to life and sharing in a wonderful week of reading, imagination and fun!



Shane Byrne
Principal

Term 3 Learning Conferences

Learning Conferences will be coming up in Week 10 on Wednesday 16th September. This will be a pupil free day for all students. Below you will find information on how to book. Please note that bookings will open at 8:30am on Tuesday 28th July and will close on Thursday 10th September at 1pm.



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents,

Term 3 Learning Conferences will be held on **Wednesday 16th September between 11am-6pm**. The Learning Conferences will be held in your child's classroom. **Please note that this is a School Closure Day for the students.**

You can now book interviews for the times that suit **YOUR FAMILY**. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS WILL OPEN on Tuesday 28th July at 8:30am
BOOKINGS CLOSE on Thursday 10th September at 1pm.

Booking code:

s5kqd



Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter the school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1 Enter your details

2 Choose teachers

3 Choose times

When you click **finish**, your interview time will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

Please note:
Students in Years 3-6 must be present at the Learning Conference. The students in Year Prep, 1 and 2 are also expected to attend the Learning Conferences with their parents, however the teacher will be facilitating the Conference, rather than the students.

Learning Conferences are strictly 10mins.

Please note that bookings can also be made with the Specialist teachers and/or Extension and Intervention teachers (if your child is part of these groups) by following the booking process outlined in this flyer.

“St Vincent de Paul School empowers students to become lifelong learners facing life with faith, hope, humility and resilience.”

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Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing

BULLYING NO WAY

This week, our school is proud to recognise **Bullying No Way Week**, a national week of action that encourages students, families and schools to stand together against bullying and create safe, respectful and inclusive environments for everyone.

Bullying can happen in many different ways, including through words, actions, exclusion and online interactions. At school, we are committed to helping our students understand the difference between **conflict, friendship difficulties and bullying**, and to giving them the confidence and skills to respond when something doesn't feel right.

Throughout the week, students will participate in age-appropriate activities and conversations focused on **kindness, respect, inclusion, empathy and speaking up**. We will encourage students to be an **upstander** – someone who notices when another person is being treated unfairly and takes positive action to help.

What can families do?

- Conversations at home can make a wonderful difference. Ask your child questions such as:
- What does being a good friend look like?
 - How can we make sure everyone feels included?
 - What could you do if you saw someone being left out or treated unkindly?
 - Who could you talk to if you were worried about something happening at school?

Most importantly, remind your child that **they never have to deal with bullying or unkind behaviour alone**. Encourage them to speak with a trusted adult at school or at home if something is worrying them.

As a school community, we all have a role to play. **Every child deserves to feel safe, valued, respected and included**. By working together and choosing kindness, courage and compassion, we can help make our school a place where everyone belongs.

Bullying No Way Week reminds us: Be kind. Be brave. Speak up. Stand together.

Rebecca Glenton
Learning Diversity and Student Wellbeing Leader

Footy Colours Day

On Thursday 17th September we look forward to **FOOTY COLOURS DAY!**

The SRC have gathered ideas from their classmates on what activities that they would like to do on this day. After surveying their classmates the SRC presented the various charities that they would like to support to Ms. Glenton.

The students have chosen **The Big Freeze** as the charity that they would like to support on Footy Colours Day.

Things to note:

- Please wear Footy Colours on Thursday 17th September
- Please bring **one gold coin, per student**, to support the Big Freeze
- Please join in with the activities on Footy Colours Day!

FOOTY

COLOURS DAY

WEAR YOUR COLOURS. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.

WHEN:

Thursday 17th September, 2026

WHERE:

Junior and Senior Yards

WHAT:

Wearing football colours (Soccer and AFL)

On Footy Colours Day, please bring along one gold coin per student to support The Big Freeze.

WEAR YOUR FOOTBALL COLOURS FOR THE WHOLE DAY!

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

THE BIG FREEZE

Join in Footy Colours Day games and activities!

SHOW YOUR TRUE COLOURS!

CHURCH BULLETIN

Parish Bulletin

Please see below for a link to the St. Vincent de Paul Strathmore and St. Monica's Moonee Ponds parish bulletin.
<https://www.stmonicasparish.com.au/newsletter.html>



2026 Term Dates

TERM 1

Wednesday 28th January (Prep)
Friday 30th January (Yr 1–Yr 6) – Thursday 2nd April
(Note: Easter 3rd–6th April)

TERM 2

Monday 20th April – Friday 26th June

TERM 3

Monday 13th July – Friday 18th September

TERM 4

Monday 5th October – Tuesday 15th December

2026 School Closure Days

- ❖ Tuesday 31st March (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Thursday 28th May
- ❖ Monday 27th July
- ❖ Wednesday 16th September (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Monday 2nd November
- ❖ Wednesday 2nd December

2026 Sacramental Dates

Year 3 Reconciliation

- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Tuesday 24th March (3 GOLD)
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Thursday 26th March (3 BLUE)

Year 4 First Holy Communion

- 6:00pm Saturday 23rd May
- 9:30am Sunday 24th May
- 6:00pm Saturday 30th May
- 9:30am Sunday 31st May



Year 6 Confirmation

- 6:00pm Saturday 24th October
- 9:30am Sunday 25th October

2026 Term 3 School Fees

Term 3 school fees are due tomorrow, **Friday 21st August**. For details please refer to the statement that was emailed on 16th February 2026.

If you have any concerns about your financial situation and are experiencing hardship, please contact Mr Shane Byrne (principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au), so that a confidential financial arrangement can be discussed.

2026 Family Masses

Please note the following 2026 Family Mass dates for Year Levels other than Sacramental years (Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6). The dates for the Commitment Masses for Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 year levels has been sent to families via Audiri.

PREP FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 22nd August 6pm/Sunday 23rd August 9:30am

YEAR 1 FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 2nd May 6pm/Sunday 3rd May 9:30am



YEAR 2 FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 14th February 6pm/Sunday 15th February 9:30am

YEAR 5 FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 12th September 6pm/Sunday 13th September 9:30am

St Vincent’s Tennis Club

windy hill
fitness centre

GET FIT **GIVE BACK**

When you sign up for a **\$299** 6-month membership

= BlueFit will donate **\$100** to us on your behalf!*

Scan to learn more and support this community initiative!

ST VINCENT’S TENNIS CLUB

Nominate St Vincent's Tennis Club as your Community Partner when you sign up for a 6-month Windy Hill membership and the tennis club will get \$100 per membership. Money raised will go towards resurfacing the courts.

Awards

Please find listed below the names of those students receiving awards at the assembly on **FRIDAY 28th August at 2:25 pm** in the hall.

PREP BLUE	Julian Torres Mischa Galea Milana Galea	FOUR BLUE	Raph Azzopardi Keenan Micevski
PREP GOLD	Mila Lugli Vaughn Vassallo	FOUR GOLD	Molly Bristow Jonathan Situ
PREP GREEN	Zara Manoukian Nyla Teuku	FOUR GREEN	Penny Garbett Tom Klavins
ONE BLUE	Sam Britton Alice Garbett	FIVE BLUE	Isabelle Alcide Logan Nguyen Charan Wickneswaran
ONE GOLD	Lincoln Allery Savana Cilia	FIVE GOLD	Jude McCormick James Micevski Renaë Regio Curtis Coleman
TWO BLUE	Isla Garra Hudson Melideo	FIVE GREEN	Alexis Abela Levi Bugryn Andreas Liapis
TWO GOLD	Ned Klavins Harrison Orfanidis	SIX BLUE	Thomas Bottomley Olivia Di Natale
THREE BLUE	Alana Dyer Hudson Batticciotto Elijah Saba Zara Sheppard	SIX GOLD	Lincoln Cairns Nerija Skimbirauskas
THREE GOLD	Sylvia Wieladek Xavier Echeverria Alicia Ren Fabian Cicione	SIX GREEN	Valerie Smith Max Gamble



St Christopher’s Junior Basketball Club

EST. 1970

JOIN OUR CLUB!



ST CHRISTOPHER'S JUNIOR BASKETBALL CLUB

Girls and boys teams
Under 8s to Under 20s
Keilor Basketball Association competition

Develop team skills and make new friends
All levels of experience welcome



REGISTER NOW!
stchristophersjbc.com.au/new-players

Important Dates

AUGUST 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3	4	5 Yr 6 Green Mass 9:15am	6	7	8 Feast of Mary McKillop	9
10	11	12	13 Second Hand Uniform Sale 8:30am-9:15am (Hall)	14 Year 5 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	15	16
17	18	19 Yr 3 Blue Mass 9:15am	20 Confirmation Parent Information Evening 7pm	21 Casual Clothes Day (Fete donation)	22 Prep Family Mass and Yr 6 Commitment Mass (Enrolment) 6pm	23 Prep Family Mass and Yr 6 Commitment Mass (Enrolment) 9:30pm
24 Parents Association Meeting (online) 7pm	25	26 Yr 3 Gold Mass 9:15am	27 Father's Day Stall School Advisory Board Meeting	28 Book Week Parade 9:30am Year 4 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	29 Battle of the Saints	30
31 Year 5 Camp						

SEPTEMBER 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1 Year 5 Camp	2 Year 5 Camp Yr 4 Gold Mass 9:15am	3	4 Father's Day Breakfast	5	6 Father's Day
7	8	9 Yr 4 Blue & Yr 4 Green Mass 9:15am	10	11 Year 3 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	12 Yr 5 Family Mass and Yr 6 Commitment Mass (Creed) 6pm	13 Yr 5 Family Mass and Yr 6 Commitment Mass (Creed) 9:30pm
14	15	16 School Closure Day - Learning Conferences	17 Footy Colours Day	18 Last Day of Term 3 - 1:30pm finish	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 St Vincent de Paul Feast Day
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 Term 4 Begins	6	7	8 St Vincent de Paul Feast Day Celebrations	9	10	11
12	13	14 Yr 2 Gold Mass 9:15am	15 School Advisory Board Meeting	16 Zooper Dooper Friday's Begin Prep Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	17	18
19	20	21 Yr 2 Blue Mass 9:15am	22	23 Zooper Dooper's	24 Year 6 Confirmation 6pm	25 Year 6 Confirmation 9:30am
26 Parent's Association Meeting	27	28 Yr 1 Mass 9:15am	29	30 Zooper Dooper's Year 1 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	31	



TheirCare

Where Kids love to be!

The place to be these holidays!

SPRING 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Pass the Popcorn!

Show your Team Spirit

Pickleball Creations

Epic School v School!

Book now at [TheirCare.com.au](https://www.TheirCare.com.au)

Save up to 90% with the Child Care Subsidy

Scan to find your nearest holiday program location

*Activities shown are just some of the fun activities available, check your service flyer for details!